FINANCIAL REPORT WITH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Year Ended March 31, 2006

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Michigan Dept. of Treasury, Local A 496 (3-98). Formerly L-3147	Audit & Finance Division CEDURES REP	ORT						
Issue under P.A. 2 of 1968	i, as amended. Filing is ma	andatory.	nt Name			County		
Local Government Type City Township	e ☐ Village       Other	Edwardsburg	a Ambulance	Service	ubmitted to S	Cas	S	
Audit Date	Opinion Date	2006	Date Accountant Report Submitted to State: April 21, 2006					
March 31, 2006 We have audited the prepared in accordar Reporting Format for Department of Treas	financial statements nce with the Stateme or Financial Statemer	of this local unit	of governmen	nt and rend	ered an opi ndards Boa vernment in	nion on ard (GA: n <i>Michi</i> g	financial SB) and t gap by th	statements he <i>Uniform</i> • Michigan
We affirm that:				_				
	d with the <i>Bulletin for</i>				ın Micnigar	as revi	<del>sea</del> :	
2. We are certified p	public accountants reg	pistered to practic	ce in Michigar	), 	ist statema	ntolitat	المالطانية	FINAN
the report of comme	following. "Yes" responses and recommendar	นอกร	n disclosed II	the financ	dai stateme	ins, nici	uumg u le	110100,
You must check the	applicable box for each	ch item below.				ا ماه مسا	Engantial	statamente
☐ yes ☒ no 1.	Certain component	units/funds/agend	cies of the lo	al unit are	excluded fr	om tne i	nnanciais	statements.
<b> ,</b> -	There are accumula earnings (P.A. 275 c	of 1980).						
•	no 3. There are instances of non-compliance with the Uniform Accounting and Budgeting Act (P.A. 2 of 1968, as amended).							
•	or its requirements,	The local unit has violated the conditions of either an order issued under the Municipal Finance Act or its requirements, or an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act.						
☐ yes ☒ no 5.	5. The local unit holds deposits/investments which do not comply with statutory requirements. (P.A. 20 of 1943, as amended [MCL 129.91], or P.A. 55 of 1982, as amended [MCL 38.1132]).							
☐ yes ☒ no 6.	and the state of t							
yes no 7. The local unit has violated the Constitutional requirement (Article 9, Section 24) to fund current year earned pension benefits (normal costs) in the current year. If the plan is more than 100% funded and the overfunding credits are more than the normal cost requirement, no contributions are due (paid during they year).								
·	The local unit uses 1995 (MCL 129.24)	1).						
☐ yes ☒ no 9.	The local unit has n	not adopted an in	vestment poi	icy as requi	ired by P.A.	196 of	1997 (MC	CL 129.95).
We have engles	sed the following:			1	Enclosed	l l	o Be warded	Not Required
		dations			Х			
	nents and recommend							X
Reports on individ	ual federal financial a	ssistance progra	ıms (program	audits).				.,,
Single Audit Repo	rts (ASLGU).							X
Certified Public Acco	ountant (Firm Name)		<u> </u>					
Street Address	erer & Co., P.C. Suite 100, P.O. Box	686		City Bay City		State MI	Zip 487	07
Accountant Signatur								

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditors' Report	1
Management's Discussion and Analysis	2-3
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Statement of Net Assets	4
Government-wide Statement of Activities	5
Fund Financial Statements:	
Governmental Fund:	
Balance Sheet	6
Reconciliation of Balance Sheet of Governmental Fund to the Statement of Net Assets	7
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance	8
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities	9
Notes to Financial Statements	10-14
Required Supplemental Information:	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund	15

## CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

April 21, 2006

To the Ambulance Board Edwardsburg Ambulance Service Cass County, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Edwardsburg Ambulance Service, Cass County, Michigan as of and for the year ended March 31, 2006, which collectively comprise the Ambulance Service's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Edwardsburg Ambulance Service's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service, Cass County, Michigan as of March 31, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position thereof, for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information listed in the table of contents are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management, regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Campbell, Kusterer: Co. P.C.

CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C. Certified Public Accountants

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the year ended March 31, 2006

The Management's Discussion and Analysis report of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service covers the Ambulance Service's financial performance during the year ended March 31, 2006.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our financial status remained stable over the last year. Our income consisted of \$164,745.99 in governmental subsidies, \$127,746.06 in run revenues, and \$16,186.65 in donations, interest on our checking account, and other miscellaneous income. This was \$19,366.70 higher than was actually budgeted at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Our expenses totaled \$285,824.51. This was \$32,575.22 under the original projected budget.

## **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of three parts, management's discussion and analysis, the basic financial statements and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two different kinds of statements that present different views of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service and the notes to the financial statements.

The first two statements are entity-wide financial statements and provide both long and short-term information about our overall financial status. These statements present governmental activities.

The remaining statements are fund financial statements, which focus on individual parts of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service in more detail.

The notes to the financial statements explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data.

Required supplementary information further explains and supports the financial statement information with budgetary comparisons.

#### **ENTITY-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The entity-wide statements report information about the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service as a whole using accounting methods used by private companies. The statement of net assets includes all of the Ambulance Service's assets and liabilities. The statement of activities records all of the current year revenues and expenses regardless of when received or paid.

The two entity-wide statements report net assets and how they have changed. Net assets are the difference between the entity's assets and liabilities and this is one method to measure the entity's financial health or position.

Over time increases/decreases in the entity's net assets are an indicator of whether financial position is improving or deteriorating.

To assess overall health of the entity you may also have to consider additional factors such as tax base changes, facility conditions and personnel changes.

All of the activities of the Ambulance Service are reported as governmental activities. This includes the General Fund.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the year ended March 31, 2006

## **FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service's funds, focusing on significant (major) funds not the Service as a whole. Funds are used to account for specific activities or funding sources. Some funds are required by law or bond covenants. The Ambulance Service Board also may create them. Funds are established to account for funding and spending or specific financial resources and to show proper expenditures of those resources.

The Edwardsburg Ambulance Service has only the General Fund.

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICE AS A WHOLE

During the year we purchased \$0 of new capital assets.

Our cash position in the governmental activities remains strong.

Our external debt is \$722.51 in principal.

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICE'S FUNDS

The General Fund pays for most of the Ambulance Service's governmental services. The most significant expenses incurred were wages in the amount of \$180,967.26.

## CAPITAL ASSET AND LONG-TERM DEBT ACTIVITY

The Ambulance Service's governmental activities invested \$0 in capital assets.

The Ambulance Service paid \$8,671.08 of principal on long-term debt.

#### KNOWN FACTORS AFFECTING FUTURE OPERATIONS

The future of Edwardsburg Ambulance Service includes operating at the Paramedic level, which is the highest level at which an ambulance service can operate. Community involvement includes an Explorer Post for youths aged 15-20, to learn about the business of EMS and possibly prepare for health care professions in the future. The post was started in Edwardsburg in 2004.

## CONTACTING THE AMBULANCE SERVICE'S MANAGEMENT

This report is designed to provide taxpayers, creditors, investors and other interested parties with a general overview of the service's finances and to demonstrate the service's accountability for the revenues it receives. If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service Administrator at 26273 East Shore Drive, Edwardsburg, Michigan or by calling during the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM at 269-663-8022.

# GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS March 31, 2006

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS:	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash in bank	69 222 79
Taxes receivable	10 812 75
Accounts receivable	24 876 03
Due from other units	<u> 153 933 24</u>
Total Current Assets	258 844 81
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:	
Capital Assets	129 882 26
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(100 091 58)
Total Non-current Assets	29 790 68
TOTAL ASSETS	288 635 49
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:	
LIABILITIES:	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	_
Total Current Liabilities	Name and the same
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Contract payable	722 51
Total Non-current Liabilities	722 51
Total Liabilities	722 51
NET ASSETS:	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	29 068 17
Unrestricted	258 844 81
	230 044 01
Total Net Assets	287 912 98
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	288 635 49

# GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Year ended March 31, 2006

		Program Revenue	GovernmentalActivities
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	Expenses	Charges for Services	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
Governmental Activities: Public safety	289 772 18	292 492 05	2 719 87
Total Governmental Activities	<u>289 772 18</u>	292 492 05	2 719 87
General Revenues: Interest Miscellaneous			3 384 16 12 802 49
Total General Revenues			16 186 65
Change in net assets			18 906 52
Net assets, beginning of year			269 006 46
Net Assets, End of Year			287 912 98

## BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUND March 31, 2006

-	<u>Assets</u>	General
_	Cash in bank Taxes receivable Accounts receivable Due from other units	69 222 79 10 812 75 24 876 03
-	Total Assets <u>Liabilities and Fund Equity</u>	153 933 24 258 844 81
_	Liabilities Total liabilities	
-	Fund equity: Unreserved: Undesignated Total fund equity	<u>258 844 81</u> 258 844 81
	Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	258 844 81

# RECONCILIATION OF BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS March 31, 2006

## TOTAL FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

258 844 81

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because –

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds balance sheet:

Capital assets at cost Accumulated depreciation 129 882 26 (100 091 58)

Long-term debt liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds

(722 51)

TOTAL NET ASSETS - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

287 912 98

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUND Year ended March 31, 2006

	General
Revenues:	164 745 99
Charges for services – Ontwa Township	127 746 06
Charges for services – other	3 384 16
Interest	12 80 <u>2 49</u>
Miscellaneous	12 002 40
Total revenues	308 678 70
Expenditures:	
Public safety: Ambulance:	
Wages:	
vvages. Administrator	7 800 00
Bookkeeper	4 800 00
EMT's	168 367 26
Fringe benefits	19 095 47
Pension	800 00
Payroll taxes	13 865 00
Billing fees	4 872 00
Supplies	11 080 35
Vehicle maintenance	9 222 35
Utilities	2 814 61
Professional fees	2 826 70
Insurance	17 745 59
Education	6 283 47
Contracted services	2 253 91
Miscellaneous	5 326 72
Debt service	<u>8 671 08</u>
Total expenditures	285 824 51
Excess of revenues over expenditures	22 854 19
Fund balance, April 1	235 990 62
	258 844 81
Fund Balance, March 31	

# RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Year ended March 31, 2006

## NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND

22 854 19

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; in the Statement of Activities, these costs are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation

Depreciation Expense Capital Outlay

(12 618 75)

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, the repayment does not have an effect in the statement of activities but does reduce the debt balance in the statement of net assets.

Principal payments on long-term debt

8 671 08

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

18 906 52

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2006

## Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service, Cass County, Michigan, conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

## Reporting Entity

The financial statements of the Ambulance Service contain all the Ambulance Service funds that are controlled by or dependent on the Ambulance Service's executive or legislative branches.

The reporting entity is the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service. The Ambulance Service is governed by an elected Ambulance Board. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the Ambulance Service as the primary government.

#### Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements, (the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Changes in Net Assets) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. All the Ambulance Service's government-wide activities are considered governmental activities.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function; and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Taxes, intergovernmental payments and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported as general revenue.

## Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available, restricted resources are applied first.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized as soon as it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures relating to compensated absences, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2006

## Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

## Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (continued)

The Ambulance Service reports only one fund as follows:

 The General Fund is used to record the operations of the Ambulance Service which pertain to maintaining and operating the Ambulance Service. Included are all transactions related to the approved current operating budget.

## Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets or Equity

Bank deposits and investments – Cash and cash equivalent investments include cash on hand, demand deposits, certificates of deposit and short-term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired. Investments are stated at fair value.

## Receivables

Receivables have been recognized for all significant amounts due to the Ambulance Service. Allowances for uncollectible accounts have been provided.

#### Inventories

Inventories of supplies are considered to be immaterial and are not recorded.

### **Encumbrances**

Encumbrances involving the current recognition of purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for future expenditures are not recorded.

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the Ambulance Service as assets with an initial cost of more than \$500.00 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Donated assets are reported at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Vehicles 10 years Equipment 5-20 years

## Compensated Absences (Vacation and Sick Leave)

Employees are not allowed to accumulate vacation and sick pay and therefore no accumulated amount is recorded in the financial statements.

## Post-employment Benefits

The Ambulance Service provides no post-employment benefits to past employees.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2006

## Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

### **Fund Equity**

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

#### Note 2 - Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The following procedures are followed in establishing the budgetary data reflected in these financial statements:

- 1. Prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the proposed budget for each budgetary fund is submitted to the Ambulance Board for consideration.
- 2. The proposed budgets include expenditures as well as the methods of financing them.
- 3. Public hearings are held to obtain taxpayer comments.
- 4. The budgets are adopted at the activity level by a majority vote of the Ambulance Board.
- 5. The budgets are adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting.
- 6. The originally adopted budgets can be amended during the year only by a majority vote of the Ambulance Board.
- 7. The adopted budgets are used as a management control device during the year for all budgetary funds.
- 8. Budget appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
- 9. The budgeted amounts shown in these financial statements are the originally adopted budgets with all amendments that were approved by the Ambulance Board during the fiscal year.

## Note 3 - Deposits and Investments

Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 129.91, authorizes the Ambulance Service to deposit and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations; bonds, securities and other direct obligations of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality of the United States; United States government or federal agency obligation repurchase agreements; banker's acceptance of United States banks; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications, which mature not more than 270 days after the date purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions which are rated as investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles which are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan. Financial institutions eligible for deposit of public funds must maintain an office in Michigan.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2006

## Note 3 – Deposits and Investments (continued)

The Ambulance Board has designated one bank for the deposit of Ambulance Service funds. The investment policy adopted by the board in accordance with Public Act 196 of 1997 has authorized investment in all investments authorized by state law as listed above.

The Ambulance Service's deposits and investments are in accordance with statutory authority.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3, risk disclosures for the cash deposits are as follows:

Total Deposits

Carrying
Amounts

69 222 79

Amounts in the bank balances are without considering deposits in transit or uncleared checks.

Insured (FDIC)
Uninsured and Uncollateralized

Total Deposits

Bank
Balances

75 602 79

75 602 79

The Edwardsburg Ambulance Service did not have any investments as of March 31, 2006.

## Note 4 - Capital Assets

Capital asset activity of the Ambulance Service's Governmental activities for the current year was as follows:

	Balance 4/1/05	Additions	Deletions	Balance 3/31/06
Governmental Activities: Vehicles Equipment	85 238 00 44 644 26	-	-	85 238 00 44 644 26
Total	129 882 26	-	-	129 882 26
Accumulated Depreciation	(87 472 83)	(12 618 75)		(100 091 58)
Net Capital Assets	42 409 43	(12 618 75)		29 790 68

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2006

### Note 5 -Long-Term Debt

A summary of changes in long-term debt follows:

	Balance 4/1/05	Additions	Deductions	Balance 3/31/06
Contract payable – Cardiac monitor	9 393 59		8 671 08	722 51
Total	9 393 59		8 671 08	722 51

#### Note 6 - Contract Payable - Cardiac Monitor

The Ambulance Service obtained a loan in the amount of \$17,342.08 to fund the purchase of a cardiac monitor. The contract requires 24 monthly payments of \$722.59. As of March 31, 2006, the outstanding principal balance was \$722.51.

## Note 7 - Deferred Compensation Plan

The Ambulance Service does not have a deferred compensation plan.

## Note 8 - Pension Plan

The Ambulance Service has a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. Eligibility is based on length of service. The plan requires participant contributions. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2006, the employer contribution was \$800.00.

## Note 9 - Risk Management

The Ambulance Service is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors, omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation). The Ambulance Service has purchased commercial insurance for property loss, torts and workers' compensation claims. Settled claims relating to the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

## BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND Year ended March 31, 2006

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Over (Under)
Revenues:	<u> Daagot</u>	Duager	Actual	(Olider)
Charges for services - Ontwa Tw	p. <b>157 062 00</b>	157 062 00	164 745 99	7 683 99
Charges for services – other	118 000 00	118 000 00	<b>127 746 06</b>	9 746 06
Interest	750 00	750 00	3 384 16	2 634 16
Miscellaneous	13 500 00	13 500 00	12 802 49	(697 51)
Total revenues	289 312 00	289 312 00	308 678 70	19 366 70
Expenditures:				
Public safety:				
Ambulance:				
Wages:				
Administrator	7 800 00	7 800 00	7 800 00	-
Bookkeeper	4 800 00	4 800 00	4 800 00	•
EMT's	168 000 00	168 367 26	168 367 26	-
Fringe benefits	20 500 00	20 500 00	19 095 47	(1 404 53)
Pension	800 00	00 008	800 00	•
Payroll taxes	15 000 00	15 000 00	13 865 00	(1 135 00)
Billing fees	6 000 00	6 000 00	4 872 00	(1 128 00)
Supplies	11 500 00	11 500 00	11 080 35	(419 65)
Vehicle maintenance	8 300 00	9 222 35	9 222 35	-
Utilities	3 250 00	3 250 00	2 814 61	(435 39)
Professional fees	8 600 00	8 600 00	2 826 70	(5 773 30)
Insurance	20 500 00	20 500 00	17 745 59	(2 754 41)
Education	7 000 00	7 000 00	6 283 47	(716 53)
Contracted services	5 000 00	5 000 00	2 253 91	(2 746 09)
Miscellaneous	7 350 00	7 350 00	5 326 72	(2 023 28)
Contingency	2 199 73	910 12	-	(910 12)
Capital outlay	10 000 00	10 000 00	•	(10 000 00)
Debt service	11 800 00	<u>11 800 00</u>	8 671 08	(3 128 92)
Total expenditures	318 399 73	<u>318 399 73</u>	285 824 51	(32 575 22)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues				
over expenditures	(29 087 73)	(29 087 73)	22 854 19	51 941 92
Fund balance, April 1	29 087 73	29 087 73	235 990 62	206 902 89
Fund Balance, March 31		-	258 844 81	<u>258 844 81</u>

## CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MARK J. CAMPBELL, CPA KENNETH P. KUSTERER, CPA 512 N. LINCOLN AVE. - SUITE 100 P.O. BOX 686 BAY CITY, MICHIGAN 48707 TEL (989) 894-1040 FAX (989) 894-5494

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF TREASURY

<u>AUDIT COMMUNICATION AND</u>
REPORT OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

.IUN **0 5** 2006

April 21, 2006

LOCAL AUDIT & FINANCE DIV.

To the Ambulance Board Edwardsburg Ambulance Service Cass County, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service for the year ended March 31, 2006. As required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, the independent auditor is required to make several communications to the governing body having oversight responsibility for the audit. The purpose of this communication is to provide you with additional information regarding the scope and results of our audit that may assist you with your oversight responsibilities of the financial reporting process for which management is responsible.

# <u>AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES</u>

We conducted our audit of the financial statements of the Edwardsburg Ambulance Service in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. The following paragraph explains our responsibilities under those standards.

Management has the responsibility for adopting sound accounting policies, for maintaining an adequate and effective system of accounts, for the safeguarding of assets, and for devising an internal control structure that will, among other things, help assure the proper recording of transactions. The transactions that should be reflected in the accounts and in the financial statements are matters within the direct knowledge and control of management. Our knowledge of such transactions is limited to that acquired through our audit. Accordingly, the fairness of representations made through the financial statements is an implicit and integral part of management's accounts and records. However, our responsibility for the financial statements is confined to the expression of an opinion on them. The financial statements remain the responsibility of management.

The concept of materiality is inherent in the work of an independent auditor. An auditor places greater emphasis on those items that have, on a relative basis, more importance to the financial statements and greater possibilities of material error than those items of lesser importance or those in which the possibility of material error is remote.

For this purpose, materiality has been defined as "the magnitude of an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would have been changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement."

An independent auditor's objective in an audit is to obtain sufficient competent evidential matter to provide a reasonable basis for forming an opinion on the financial statements. In doing so, the auditor must work within economic limits; the opinion, to be economically useful, must be formed within a reasonable length of time and at reasonable cost. That is why an auditor's work is based on selected tests rather than an attempt to verify all transactions. Since evidence is examined on a test basis only, an audit provides only reasonable assurance, rather than absolute assurance, that financial statements are free of material misstatement. Thus, there is a risk that audited financial statements may contain undiscovered material errors or fraud. The existence of that risk is implicit in the phrase in the audit report, "in our opinion."

To the Ambulance Board Edwardsburg Ambulance Service Cass County, Michigan

In the audit process, we gain an understanding of the internal control structure of an entity for the purpose of assisting in determining the nature, timing, and extent of audit testing. Our understanding is obtained by inquiry of management, testing transactions, and observation and review of documents and records. The amount of work done is not sufficient to provide a basis for an opinion on the adequacy of the internal control structure.

## **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

#### **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

Auditing standards call for us to inform you of other significant issues such as, but not limited to, 1) Accounting estimates that are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements or because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments; 2) Significant audit adjustments that may not have been detected except through the auditing procedures we performed; 3) Disagreements with management regarding the scope of the audit or application of accounting principles; 4) Consultation with other accountants; 5) Major issues discussed with management prior to retention; and 6) Difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

We have no significant issues, regarding these matters, to report to you at this time. Audit adjustments were minimal, and are available to review.

## COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION REGARDING INTERNAL CONTROLS/ COMPLIANCE/ EFFICIENCY

Our procedures disclosed the following conditions that we would like to bring to your attention:

#### **SEGREGATION OF DUTIES**

A separation of duties between persons who authorize transactions and persons who have control over the related assets does not always exist.

The least desirable accounting system is one in which an employee is responsible for executing the transaction and then recording the transaction from its origin to its ultimate posting in the General Ledger. This increases the likelihood that intentional or unintentional errors will go undetected. In most cases, adequate segregation of duties substantially increases control over errors without duplication of effort.

We understand that due to the size of needed staff, a proper segregation of duties may be impractical and the "cost to benefit" relationship may not justify the addition of accounting staff to accomplish the desired segregation.

These conditions were considered in determining the nature, timing and extent of the audit tests to be applied in our audit of the Ambulance Service's financial statements and this communication of these matters does not affect our report on the Ambulance Service's financial statements, dated March 31, 2006.

## **SUMMARY**

We welcome any questions you may have regarding the foregoing comments and we would be happy to discuss any of these or other questions that you might have at your convenience.

Sincerely,

CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C.

Campbell, Kusterer: Co. P.C.

Certified Public Accountants